

Madison 6

DEPARTMENT OF GENETICS

January 8, 1958

Dear Curt:

I know that you would want me to make the comment if it occurred to me, or I would not bother.

A propos your paper in PNAS, August 1957, p. 745: so far as I know, no one has induced mutations in "test tube genes", nor observed its occurrence outside the intact cell. The nearest thing to it is the inactivation^{*} of genetic activity by the usual reagents. Please instruct me if I have overboarded what you had in mind.

I doubt that anyone has yet made a powerful study of the point. We have too long had "good intentions" in the Gal system.

With all best wishes,

Yours,

Joshua Lederberg

* e.g. Herriott;
Zamenhof